

CHAMPVA POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2
SECTION: 7.4
TITLE: CONTINUOUS ESOPHAGEAL PH MONITORING (CAEpHM)

AUTHORITY: 38 USC 1713; 38 CFR 17.270(a) and 17.272(a)

RELATED AUTHORITY: 32 CFR 199.4(b)(2)(vii)

TRICARE POLICY MANUAL: Chapter 1, Section 15.2

I. EFFECTIVE DATE

A. October 31, 1994, medically necessary services and supplies related to CAEpHM in patients age 12 and over with:

1. Chronic heartburn;
2. Chronic hoarseness;
3. Persistent acid reflux refractory to therapy; or
4. Noncardiac substernal chest pain.

B. January 1, 1996, for CAEpHM without restrictions based on age.

II. PROCEDURE CODE(S)

91032-91033

III. DESCRIPTION

A pH electrode (probe) is positioned transnasally into the esophagus 5cm above the lower esophageal sphincter. The electrode transmits pH measurements to a portable data recorder, usually for a duration of up to 24 hours. The monitoring can be performed on an inpatient or outpatient basis. The patient is asked to register any symptoms and is encouraged to live as normal a life as possible during the recording time.

IV. POLICY

CHAMPVA may cost share medically necessary services and supplies related to Continuous Esophageal pH Monitoring for the purpose of diagnosing and monitoring the treatment for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease.

TRANSMITTAL #: 35
DATE: 02/26/2001
TRICARE CHANGE #: N/A

V. POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

If previously denied claims are brought to the attention of CHAMPVA, the claims shall be reprocessed in accordance with this policy

END OF POLICY